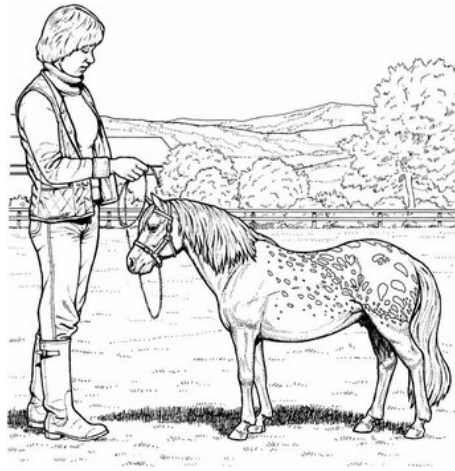


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THE WILD PONY



Red was a six-year-old boy. He lived on a farm. He wanted to be a cowboy. He wore a cowboy hat. He liked to sing cowboy songs. One day, he got a surprise.

"Look, Red," said his father.

"What?" asked Red. His father pointed. There was a pony in the yard. It was a brown Shetland pony.

"Is it my pony?" Red said. "Wow! Thank you!"

"Be careful," his father said. "She is a little wild."

They put a saddle on the pony. She kicked at them. She tried to bite them. "She really is wild," said Red.

Red climbed onto the pony. She didn't like that. She jumped. She bucked once. She bucked twice. She bucked three times. "Hang on tight! Don't fall!" his father shouted.

The pony began to run. She ran very fast. She made a sharp turn. She tried to make Red fall. Red held on tight.

Then the pony stopped. Red got off. "Why is she so mean?" he asked.

"She was a circus pony," his father said. "Maybe they were mean to her at the circus."

Red patted the pony's neck. He gave her an apple. "We'll be good friends," he said. "I want you to trust me!"

Name _____ Date _____

Answer the questions about *THE WILD PONY*

1. Where does the story take place?
 - a. on a farm
 - b. at a circus
 - c. at a school
 - d. in a barn
2. What wild things does the pony do?
 - a. She does circus tricks.
 - b. She sings cowboy songs.
 - c. She kicks, bucks and bites.
 - d. She eats hay.
3. Why does Red give an apple to his pony?
 - a. She is hungry.
 - b. He wants her to trust him.
 - c. There is a worm in the apple.
 - d. Red has too many apples.
4. Do you like horses? Have you ridden a horse? What was it like?

Name _____ Date _____

Answers to *THE WILD PONY*

1. a

2. c

3. b

4. answers will vary